IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for transferring a data file between information processing apparatuses, each including a storage device, said system comprising:

transferring means for transferring data files between the information processing apparatuses; and

transfer progress display means, comprising:

transmission-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmission directories having each data file to be transmitted as a subordinate directory;

transmitted-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmitted directories having each transmitted data file as a subordinate directory; and

first generation means for generating a signal indicating a status of progress of transfer of data files, based on the number of transmission directories acquired by said transmission-directory acquisition means and the number of transmitted directories acquired by said transmitted-directory acquisition means, wherein a display of the status of progress of transfer is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file, and

wherein the transferring means and the transfer progress display means are executed separately but in parallel to one another.

2. (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein said first generation means comprises calculation means for calculating a degree of progress from a comparison between the number of transmission directories and the number of transmitted directories.

3. (Original) A system according to Claim 2, further comprising display means for displaying the degree of progress.

4. (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein an upper limit is set for a number of data files capable of being stored in each directory.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein a display of the degree of progress is further updated every time transfer of all data files in one directory has been completed.

6. (Original) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising second generation means for generating a signal indicating a status of progress of data transfer based on a number of data files to be transmitted and a number of transmitted data files, wherein said first generation means and said second generation means are switchable.

7. (Original) A system according to Claim 6, wherein switching between said first generation means and said second generation means is performed in accordance with the number of transmission directories.

8. (Original) A system according to Claim 6, wherein switching between said first generation means and said second generation means is performed in accordance with a display capability of a display device for displaying the status of transfer progress.

9. (Original) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising third generation means for generating a signal indicating a status of progress of data transfer based on a total amount of data of data files to be transmitted and a total amount of data of transmitted data files, wherein said first generation means and said third generation means are switchable.

10. (Original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein switching between said first generation means and said third generation means is performed in accordance with the number of transmission directories.

11. (Original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein switching between said first generation means and said third generation means is performed in accordance with a display capability of a display device for displaying the status of transfer progress.

12. (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein a destination of data-file transfer is a digital camera.

13. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for transferring a data file to an external apparatus including a storage device, said apparatus comprising:

transferring means for transferring data files to the external apparatus; and

transfer progress display means, comprising:

transmission-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmission directories having each data file to be transmitted as a subordinate directory;

transmitted-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmitted directories having each transmitted data file as a subordinate directory; and

generation means for generating a signal indicating a status of progress of transfer of data files, based on the number of transmission directories acquired by said transmission-directory acquisition means and the number of transmitted directories acquired by said transmitted-directory acquisition means, wherein a display of the status of progress of transfer is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file, and

wherein the transferring means and the transfer progress display means are executed separately but in parallel to one another.

14. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said generation means comprises calculation means for calculating a degree of progress from a comparison between the number of transmission directories and the number of transmitted directories.

15. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 14, further comprising display means for displaying the degree of progress.

16. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising image pickup means.

17. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for receiving a data file from an external apparatus including a storage device, said apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving data files transferred by the external apparatus; and

transfer progress display means, comprising:

transmission-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmission directories having each data file to be transmitted as a subordinate directory;

transmitted-directory acquisition means for acquiring a number of transmitted directories having each transmitted data file as a subordinate directory; and

generation means for generating a signal indicating a status of progress of transfer of data files, based on the number of transmission directories acquired by said transmission-directory acquisition means and the number of transmitted directories acquired by said transmitted-directory acquisition means, wherein a display of the status of progress of transfer is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file, and

wherein the receiving means and the transfer progress display means are executed separately but in parallel to one another.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said generation means comprises calculation means for calculating a degree of progress from a comparison between the number of transmission directories and the number of transmitted directories.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 18, further comprising display means for displaying the degree of progress.

20. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein a destination of data-file transfer is a digital camera.

21. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for transferring a data file between information processing apparatuses, each including a storage device, said system comprising:

transferring means for transferring data files between the information processing apparatuses; and

transfer progress display means, comprising:

first acquisition means for acquiring a capacity of use of a storage device of an information processing apparatus serving as a transfer source;

second acquisition means for acquiring an amount of data whose transfer has been completed; and

calculation means for calculating a degree of progress based on a comparison between the capacity of use acquired by said first acquisition means and the amount of data acquired by said second acquisition means, wherein a display of the degree of progress is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file, and

wherein the transferring means and the transfer progress display means are executed separately but in parallel to one another.

22. (Original) A system according to Claim 21, wherein most of the capacity of use of the storage device of the information processing apparatus, serving as the transfer source, is occupied by data to be transferred.

23. (Original) A system according to Claim 21, wherein, when transferring data at a time, first, the capacity of use of the storage device of the information processing apparatus, serving as the transfer source, is acquired.

24. (Original) A system according to Claim 21, wherein the degree of progress is updated every time transfer of one data file has been completed.

25. (Original) A system according to Claim 21, further comprising display means for displaying the degree of progress.

26. (Currently Amended) An image pickup system comprising:

an image pickup apparatus including a storage device;

an information processing apparatus; and

a communication channel through which data can be transferred between said image pickup apparatus and said information processing apparatus by a transferring unit,

wherein, when transferring, by the transferring unit, image files within the storage device of said image pickup apparatus to said information processing apparatus at a time, a degree of progress is calculated by a transfer progress display unit based on a comparison between a total number of transmission directories having each image file to be transmitted as a subordinate directory and a total number of transmitted directories having each transferred image file as a subordinate directory, and the transfer progress is displayed and updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the image file, wherein the transferring unit and the transfer progress display unit are executed separately but in parallel with one another.

27. (Original) A system according to Claim 26, wherein an upper limit is set for a number of data files stored in each directory.

28. (Original) A system according to Claim 26, wherein, when transferring image files at a time, information relating to directories stored in the storage device of said image pickup apparatus is acquired in advance, and a display of the degree of progress is updated every time transfer of all image files in one directory has been completed.

29. (Currently Amended) An image pickup system comprising:

an image pickup apparatus including a storage device;

an information processing apparatus; and

a communication channel through which data can be transferred between said image pickup apparatus and said information processing apparatus by a transferring unit,

wherein, when transferring, by the transferring unit, image data within the storage device of said image pickup apparatus to said information processing apparatus at a time, a degree of progress is calculated by a transfer progress display unit ~~displayed continuously~~ based on a comparison between a capacity of use of the storage device of said image pickup apparatus and an amount of transferred image data, and the transfer progress is displayed and updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the image data, wherein the transferring unit and the transfer progress display unit are executed separately but in parallel with one another.

30. (Original) A system according to Claim 29, wherein most of the capacity of use of the storage device of said image pickup apparatus is occupied by image data.

31. (Original) A system according to Claim 29, wherein, when transferring image data at a time, the capacity of use of the storage device of said image pickup apparatus is acquired in advance.

32. (Original) A system according to Claim 29, wherein the degree of progress is calculated and a display is updated every time transfer of one image file has been completed.

33. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 29, wherein during transfer of image data, a total size of transferred image data is calculated and a display is updated continuously.

34. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for transferring a data file between information processing apparatuses, each including a storage device, said method comprising:

a transferring step of transferring data files between the information processing apparatuses; and

a transfer progress display step, comprising:

a transmission-directory acquisition step of acquiring a number of transmission directories having each data file to be transmitted as a subordinate directory;

a transmitted-directory acquisition step of acquiring a number of transmitted directories having each transmitted data file as a subordinate directory; and

a first generation step of generating a signal indicating a status of progress of transfer of data files, based on the number of transmission directories acquired in said transmission-directory acquisition step and the number of transmitted directories acquired in said transmitted-directory acquisition step, wherein a display of the status of progress of transfer is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file, and

wherein the transferring step and the transfer progress display step are executed separately but in parallel with one another.

35. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, wherein said first generation step comprises a calculation step of calculating a degree of progress from a comparison between the number of transmission directories and the number of transmitted directories.

36. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising a display control step of causing a display device to display the degree of progress.

37. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, wherein an upper limit is set for a number of data files capable of being stored in each directory.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 34, wherein a display of the degree of progress is further updated every time transfer of all data files in one directory has been completed.

39. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising a second generation step of generating a signal indicating a status of progress of data transfer based on a number of data files to be transmitted and a number of transmitted data files, wherein said first generation step and said second generation step are switchable.

40. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein switching between said first generation step and said second generation step is performed in accordance with the number of transmission directories.

41. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein switching between said first generation step and said second generation step is performed in accordance with a display capability of a display device for displaying the status of transfer progress.

42. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising a third generation step of generating a signal indicating a status of progress of data transfer based on a total amount of data of data files to be transmitted and a total amount of data of transmitted data files, wherein said first generation step and said third generation step are switchable.

43. (Original) A method according to Claim 42, wherein switching between said first generation step and said third generation step is performed in accordance with the number of transmission directories.

44. (Original) A method according to Claim 42, wherein switching between said first generation step and said third generation step is performed in accordance with a display capability of a display device for displaying the status of transfer progress.

45. (Original) A method according to Claim 34, wherein a destination of data-file transfer is a digital camera.

46. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for transferring a data file between information processing apparatuses, each including a storage device, said method comprising:

a transferring step of transferring data files between the information processing apparatuses; and

a transfer progress display step, comprising:

a first acquisition step of acquiring a capacity of use of a storage device of an information processing apparatus, serving as a transfer source;

a second acquisition step of acquiring an amount of data whose transfer has been completed; and

a transfer progress display step of ~~displaying continuously~~ calculating a degree of progress based on a comparison between the capacity of use acquired in said first acquisition step and the amount of data acquired in said second acquisition step, and displaying the transfer progress with the display being continuously updated at asynchronous intervals during transfer of the data file,

wherein the transferring step and the transfer progress display step are executed separately but in parallel with one another.

47. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing a program, capable of being executed by a computer, for realizing an information processing method according to any one of Claims 34 through 46.

48. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for sequentially processing a plurality of data files stored in a storage device, said method comprising:

sequentially processing the plurality of data files; and

a processing progress display step, comprising:

a processing-directory acquisition step of acquiring a number of processing directories having each data file to be processed as a subordinate directory;

a processed-directory acquisition step of acquiring a number of processed directories having each processed data file as a subordinate directory; and

a first generation step of generating a signal indicating a status of progress of processing of data files, based on the number of processing directories acquired in said processing-directory acquisition step and the number of processed directories acquired in said processed-directory acquisition step, wherein a display of the status of progress of processing is updated continuously at asynchronous intervals during processing of the data file, and

wherein the sequentially processing step and the processing progress display step are executed separately but in parallel with one another.

49. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for sequentially processing a plurality of data files stored in a storage device, said method comprising:

sequentially processing the plurality of data files; and

a processing progress display step, comprising:

a first acquisition step of acquiring a capacity of use of the storage device;

a second acquisition step of acquiring an amount of data whose processing has been completed; and

a display step of ~~displaying continuously~~ calculating a degree of progress based on a comparison between the capacity of use acquired in said first acquisition step and the amount of data acquired in said second acquisition step, and displaying the processing progress with the display being continuously updated at asynchronous intervals during processing of the data file,

wherein the transferring step and the transfer progress display step are executed separately but in parallel with one another.